



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-3000

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

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Mr. Dan G. Blair  
Chairman  
Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue, N.W., Suite 200  
Washington, D. C. 20258-0001

POSTAL REGULATORY  
COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Mr. Blair:

This is in reply to your April 22, 2008, letter to Acting Secretary Roy A. Bernardi, regarding comments on the Report on Universal Postal Service and the Postal Monopoly.

Based upon review by the Departmental Mail Management Officer, HUD would like to offer the following comments:

- **Topic No. 1: Universal Postal Service**

An evaluation of the "needs and expectations of the United States public" should be made because it is evident that the way the public carries out its business has changed and will continue to change in the future (internet usage for banking, paying bills, email for transmitting written and printed matter, etc.).

- **Topic No. 4: Universal Service: Range of Product Offerings**

The postal service should focus on its core products; possibly reduce some of its other services (overnight, etc.) and partnering with one of the private firms to have them on USPS sites to offer those services.

- **Topic No. 6: Universal Service: Frequency of Delivery**

The postal service could change to every other day pickup/delivery to the public and everyday to government and businesses. If someone has a home-based business, or are in an exception category (e.g., elderly communities), they would be required to inform the postal service in order to continue to pick up and receiving mail each day.

- **Topic No. 7: Universal Service Obligation: Rates and Affordability of Service**

If the postal service decides to increase rates, make the increase enough to last more than one year. Raising rates by a higher amount rather than 1 or 2 cents should keep rates locked in for more than 2 years and lower consumer complaints about these increases.

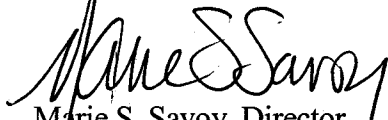
- **Topic No. 11: Universal Service, the Universal Service Obligation and the Postal Monopoly in Other Countries**

USPS costs are very low when compared to other countries.

- **Topic No. 12: Other issues**

The internet will play a major part in the trends that may affect the future needs and expectations of society with respect to universal service. Consumers will be paying more of their bills online, banking, newspapers and magazines are currently available, and, email will become the norm for both personal and work communications that were once done solely on paper.

Sincerely,

  
Marie S. Savoy, Director  
Office of Administrative and  
Management Services